

Attorney Docket No.: 033082M277



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Confirmation No.: 4029

Applicants : Takanori SAITO, et al.  
U.S. Serial No. : 10/551,033  
Filed : September 27, 2005  
Examiner : Gregory A. Wilson  
Group Art Unit : 3749  
For : THERMAL PROCESSING METHOD AND  
THERMAL PROCESSING UNIT

**AMENDMENT AS SUBMISSION IN REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A reply to the Office Action mailed on October 2, 2007 was due by January 2, 2008. Hence, a Petition for extending the time of reply up to and including February 4, 2008, (February 2, 2008 was a Saturday) is submitted herewith. A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) and a further Information Disclosure Statement likewise are submitted. Please accept these papers as timely filed.

Please amend the above-identified application further as set forth below and consider the following remarks.